

## 2011 REAPPORTIONMENT COMMISSION

#### 2011 NOTICE OF REAPPORTIONMENT COMMISSION MEETING

Date:

Wednesday, August 3, 2011

Time:

2:00 PM

Place:

State Capitol, Conference Room 329

415 South Beretania Street Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

## **AGENDA**

- I. Call to Order Chair
- II. Roll Call and Determination of a Quorum
- III. Approval of Minutes for meeting of July 19, 2011
- IV. Public Testimony Any interested person may submit data, views or arguments on any agenda item
- V. Input from Advisory Councils Discussion and action, if appropriate
- VI. Technical specifications for public submission of proposed redistricting plans Discussion and action, if appropriate
- VII. Permanent resident population Discussion and action, if appropriate
- VIII. Proposed Redistricting Plan(s) Presentation of findings and recommendations of the Technical Committee Deliberation and appropriate action, if any
- IX. Update on matters from Reapportionment staff including the computer vendor; problems, if any, regarding the redistricting software; information provided by the public; information from the military and/or from various universities; information from the census bureau Discussion and action, if appropriate

2011 Notice of Reapportionment Commission Meeting August 3, 2011 Page 2

X. Executive Session
Pursuant to HRS §92-5(a)(4) to consult with the Commission's attorney concerning the Commission's powers, duties, privileges, immunities and liabilities regarding population base, permanent residents and prior case law regarding reapportionment and redistricting

Pursuant to HRS §92-5(a)(2) relating to filling staff position as consideration of matters involving privacy will be involved

- XI. Schedule future meeting dates
- XII. Adjournment

THE COMMISSION MAY ELECT TO CONSULT WITH COUNSEL IN EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO SECTION 92-5, HAW. REV. STAT. IF YOU REQUIRE SPECIAL ASSISTANCE OR AUXILARY AIDS AND/OR SERVICES TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PUBLIC HEARING PROCESS OF THE COMMISSION, PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE OF ELECTIONS AT LEAST 48 HOURS PRIOR TO THE HEARING SO ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE MADE. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL THE OFFICE OF ELECTIONS AT 453-8683 OR 1-800-442-8683 FROM THE NEIGHBOR ISLANDS.

vendor, problems, if any tregarding the redistricting scrivers; infor

## STATE OF HAWAII 2011 REAPPORTIONMENT COMMISSION

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE 2011 REAPPORTIONMENT COMMISSION

July 19, 2011 2:00 pm

State Capitol, Room 329 Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

#### **Commissioners Present:**

Victoria Marks, Chairperson Calvert Chipchase, IV Clarice Y. Hashimoto Harold S. Masumoto Elizabeth N. Moore Dylan Nonaka Lorrie Lee Stone Anthony Takitani

#### **Technical Staff Present:**

Robyn Chun, Department of the Attorney General Judy Gold, Office of Elections
Royce Jones, ESRI
Caryn Moran, Office of Elections
Scott Nago, Office of Elections
Kristen Oka, Office of Elections
Rex Quidilla, Office of Elections
David Rosenbrock, Office of Elections
Rhowell Ruiz, Office of Elections
Aaron Schulaner, Office of Elections
Russell Suzuki, Department of the Attorney General
Lori Tomczyk, Office of Elections
Charles Wong, Office of Elections

#### **Observers Present:**

James Arakaki, Hawaii Advisory Council Dante Carpenter, Democratic Party of Hawaii Robert Cramer, KHON Bart Dame Nancy Davlantes, Common Cause Hawaii Derrick DePledge, Star-Advertiser Susan Fernandez Ann Freed JoAnne Georgi, Kauai Advisory Council Richard Ha, Hawaii Advisory Council Ka'aina Hull, Kauai Advisory Council Representative Robert Herkes, State House Glenn Ida, Oahu Advisory Council Michael Levine, Civil Beat Nikki Love, Common Cause Hawaii Janet Mason, League of Women Voters of Hawaii Lynne Matusow, Downtown Neighborhood Board Amy Monk Maurice Morita, Hawaii LECET Ethann Oki, Office of Senator Malama Solomon Michael Palcic, Oahu Advisory Council Barbara Polk, Americans for Democratic Action B.J. Reyes, Star-Advertiser Janice Ringler, Common Cause Hawaii Senator Sam Slom, State Senate Tom Smyth, Military Officers Association of America Glen Takahashi, City & County of Honolulu-Elections Division Melissa Vomvoris, Office of Senator Les Ihara Representative Gene Ward, State House Shannon Wood, Windward Ahupuaa Alliance

#### I. Call to Order

Chairperson Marks called the meeting of the 2011 Reapportionment Commission to order at 2:05 pm.

#### **PROCEEDINGS**

#### II. Roll Call and Determination of Quorum

Roll call was taken and all Commissioners with the exception of Commissioner Thomason were present.

Chairperson Marks noted that today's meeting will be live on Olelo on Oahu and Statewide on Olelo's website. It will also be broadcast live on Maui and the Big Island on their public access channel.

Chairperson Marks noted that 60 email testimonies have been received since the July 12, 2011 meeting, they have been circulated to the Commissioners, and will be posted on the website.

#### III. Approval of Minutes

Chairperson Marks moved to approve the minutes of the July 12, 2011 meeting. Commissioner Takitani seconded the motion with no objections from the eight commissioners present.

## IV. Public Testimony – Any interested person may submit data, views or arguments on any agenda item

Ms. Wood testified that she submitted a response to Senator Solomon's "Op Ed" piece supporting the Commission's decision to include the military in the population count.

Ms. Wood asked the following question, "In the first and second congressional district, what criteria will be used to determine the population?"

Chairperson Marks responded that federal law requires that census data be used to determine congressional districts.

Ms. Wood asked if different criteria will be used to determine the boundaries for the congressional districts as opposed to state house and senate districts. Chairperson Marks responded, if she understood her question correctly, the answer is "yes".

# V. Reports from Advisory Councils regarding council meetings held and community input received – Discussion and action, if appropriate, regarding those matters

Oahu Advisory Council Chair Palcic announced their next meeting will be on July 28, 2011 at 9:00 am in the State Capitol. He also noted that the council was taking this time to familiarize themselves with the redistricting software and found it eminently usable.

He noted that if people want to use the software to develop their own districts the Oahu Advisory Council would be willing to hear their suggestions.

Kauai Advisory Council Member Hull announced that the Kauai Advisory Council met on July 18, 2011 and recommends to the Commission that the 2021 Reapportionment Commission have proportional neighbor island representation.

He also noted that the Kauai Advisory Council's discussions focused on the constitutional mandate that each island have a minimum of two senators.

Chairperson Marks stated that she responded directly to Kauai Advisory Council Member Georgi directly on that issue.

Kauai Advisory Council Member Hull thanked Chairperson Marks and stated they will review and discuss further, her response, at the next Kauai Advisory Council Meeting to be held on July 22, 2011.

Chairperson Marks also noted that written testimony was received from Susan Dursin, of the Hawaii County League of Women Voters, and will be made part of the record.

# VI. Population base – Ongoing discussion and action, if appropriate, regarding permanent residents and whom to include or exclude

Chairperson Marks moved that the Commission go into executive session to discuss with the Commission's Attorney pertaining to this agenda item regarding the Commission's powers, duties, privileges, immunities, and liabilities pursuant to HRS §92-5 (a)(4). Commissioner Masumoto seconded the motion with no objections from the eight commissioners present.

Chairperson Marks stated that the Commission will take this item up under agenda item X, executive session.

# VII. Discussion and action, if appropriate, concerning technical specifications for public submission of proposed redistricting plans

Project Manager Rosenbrock announced that there are currently 134 users to the system. There have been six phone calls and one email requesting assistance.

There has been one plan submitted, however it was only for a specific neighborhood. The Commission staff is exploring ways to work through the Advisory Councils to submit partial plans covering less than a basic island unit to be considered in their recommendations to the Commission.

Chairperson Marks noted that at the last meeting the following criteria were announced for the public to submit plans:

- Use the same population base;
- 2. Use same geographic area and census blocks;

- 3. Use the established number of House and Senate seats; and
- 4. Plans need to be completed by basic island unit.

# VIII. Discussion and action, if appropriate, on status of work for Technical Committee regarding proposed Congressional and/or State Senate and/or State House redistricting plans

Commissioner Nonaka stated the Technical Committee met last week and will be meeting two more times this week and one more time next week. He stated he was confident that they would complete their duties in the time they have left and he was looking forward to more input from the public.

Commissioner Chipchase noted that drafts of plans were shared amongst the Committee Members and does not see any impediment to completing their task on time.

Commissioners Stone and Hashimoto agreed with Commissioners Nonaka's and Chipchase's assessment.

Chairperson Marks reminded the Technical Committee that they need to have the proposed plan available to the Commission before the next meeting on August 4, 2011 to comply with Sunshine Law.

IX. Update from Reapportionment Commission staff regarding data from the military, data from the University of Hawaii system and administrative matters, if any. Commission discussion and action, if appropriate, regarding those matters

Project Manager Rosenbrock noted that they have received information from the United States Pacific Command (USPACOM), but have not received anything from the University of Hawaii Systems.

#### X. Executive Session

Chairperson Marks moved that the Commission go into executive session pursuant to HRS §92-5(a)(2) and HRS §92-5(a)(4). Commissioner Takitani seconded the motion with no objections from the eight commissioners present.

The Commission resolved to executive session at 2:21 pm.

#### Reconvene of Meeting

The Commission returned at 3:26 pm. Chairperson Marks moved to go into regular session. Commissioner Takitani seconded the motion with no objections from the eight commissioners present.

#### XI. Future meeting dates

Chairperson Marks announced the future meeting dates:

Thursday, August 4, 2011 Monday, August 8, 2011

All meetings scheduled for 2:00 pm in Conference Room 329, at the State Capitol.

Chairperson Marks announced the tentative public hearing schedule:

| August 30, 2011    | Kapolei       | 6:00 pm |
|--------------------|---------------|---------|
| August 31, 2011    |               |         |
| September 1, 2011  | Lahaina       | 5:30 pm |
| September 2, 2011  | Kauai         | 5:30 pm |
| September 6, 2011  | Kailua        | 6:00 pm |
| September 7, 2011  | State Capitol | 6:00 pm |
| September 8, 2011  |               |         |
| September 9, 2011  | Lanai         | 5:00 pm |
| September 12, 2011 | Molokai       | 5:00 pm |
| September 13, 2011 |               |         |
| September 14, 2011 |               |         |
| September 15, 2011 |               |         |
| September 16, 2011 |               |         |

She noted that the locations of the meetings are currently being finalized.

Chairperson Marks noted that Representative Herkes passed out information to the Commission after executive session which the Commission will review.

She noted that the Commission continues to receive email from the public and the Commission Members are "open to reconsidering views that they voted on or expressed". Reapportionment Commission Regular Meeting Minutes July 19, 2011 Page 7

### XII. Adjournment

Chairperson Marks moved that the meeting be adjourned. Commissioner Nonaka seconded the motion with no objections from the eight commissioners present.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:31 pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 4, 2011 at 2:00 pm in Conference Room 329, at the State Capitol.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott T. Nago

**Chief Election Officer** 

Secretary to the Reapportionment Commission

## IRON WORKERS STABILIZATION FUND

To: State of Hawai'i 2011 Reapportionment Commission Victoria Marks, Chair Members: Calvert Chipchase IV, Clarice Hashimoto, Harold Matsumoto, Elizabeth Moore, Dylan Nonaka, Lorrie Stone, Anthony Takitani, Terry Thomason

Re: Request to Reconsider Decision to Include Nonresident Members of the Military
In The Hawai'i State Population Base Regarding Reapportionment and
Redistricting

We are writing to support the concerns of the County Reapportionment Advisory Councils and the Office of Senator Malama Solomon.

Military personnel, and their family members that follow them, are stationed involuntarily. It is by virtue of their profession that military personal are transitory and not necessarily a permanent resident of the state that they are stationed. We have no problem with counting those military personnel that have declared that they are residents of Hawai'i in the population base for reapportionment. However, we are against counting those military personnel, and their families, that have not declared Hawai'i as their place of residence in the population base for reapportionment.

For similar reasons we object to adding out-of-state college students. Although out-of-state college students may have voluntarily chosen to attend college in the state, they are often still dependents of their parents and claim residency outside of Hawai'i. Again, we have no problem with adding those students that have declared Hawai'i as their permanent residence.

Therefore, we humbly ask that you reconsider your action to include military personnel and their families and college students in the population base for reapportionment.

Sincerely,

T. George Paris Managing Director

7/25/11



Center for American Women and Politics Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey 191 Ryders Lane New Brunswick, New Jersey 08901-8557 www.cawp.rutgers.edu cawp@rci.rutgers.edu 732-932-9384 Fax: 732-932-6778

July 20, 2011

Hawaii Reapportionment Commission 415 South Beretania St., Rm. 445 Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Hawaii Reapportionment Commission:



I am writing to you as a member of the Hawaii Reapportionment Commission to bring to your attention an important issue. For 40 years, the Center for American Women and Politics (CAWP) at Rutgers University has been monitoring and analyzing women's status and prospects in American politics, tracking the numbers of women officeholders and conducting research about their impact. In recent years, we have noted a deeply disturbing trend – the stagnation and even decline in the number of elected women – and we want to make sure that trend is not exacerbated by the redistricting process. Yet the early evidence suggests that unless careful attention is paid, women may lose even more ground.

As part of our 2012 Project, a non-partisan campaign to increase the number of women in Congress and state legislatures, we are monitoring the redistricting process nationwide. We have analyzed the new map in New Jersey, the first state to complete its legislative redistricting, and the results are alarming. In a state where 28% of the current legislature is female, women make up at least 57% of the legislators who will retire as a result of redistricting. In other words, women incumbents were disproportionately forced out by redrawn district lines.

We all know that women are more than half the nation's population, and on that basis alone, the paucity of elected women is a problem. Today, women hold 17% of the seats in Congress, 6 governorships out of 50, 24% of seats in state legislatures, and mayor's offices in 8 of the 100 largest cities in the nation. In Hawaii, women hold 34.2% (26 of 76) of state legislative seats (4<sup>th</sup> highest in the nation) and 50% (2 of 4) of the congressional seats. Although Hawaii has done better than many states, there is still progress to be made to reach parity.

But we're not just playing numbers games. Research carried out by scholars at CAWP and elsewhere demonstrates clearly that gender balance changes the way government works, altering the policy agenda, procedures, content and outcomes. On issues as varied as job loss, national security, and health, adding women makes a difference. This is not a partisan divide; both Democratic and Republican women bring distinctive experiences, perspectives and priorities to public office. That's not only good for women; it's good for all of Hawaii.

Studies cutting across the public and private sectors underscore the value of gender balance. A recent article on Forbes.com cited a Harvard conference that used extensive scholarly research to make "the business case for gender equality." The author reported: "There is irrefutable, verifiable evidence that women in greater than token proportions improve decision-making, improve shareholder value and lower risk-taking." While the business of government does not have shareholders, it certainly does have stakeholders, citizens for whom better decision-making and improved value are critically important.

Under the circumstances, we can ill afford to diminish women's representation in government. That's why I wanted to write to you about this issue. We understand that women are not legally protected in the redistricting rules, but I would ask you to adhere to a higher standard than merely following the basic requirements, which should be seen as a floor, not a ceiling. As you assess the various options before you, don't simply do the least harm; instead, aim to do the most good. I encourage you to ensure that women incumbents – present only through hard-won progress – are treated fairly in the redistricting process.

Sincerely,

Debbie Walsh

Director, Center for American Women and Politics

#### 2011 ADVISORY COUNCIL, ISLAND OF HAWAII

#### JULY 15, 2011

A meeting of the Hawaii Island Reapportionment Advisory Council (HIRAC) was held on July 15, 2011 at the Waimea Community Center. Agenda items were discussed at this meeting. All four HIRAC (David Ross, Barry Lamb, Richard Ha and James Arakaki) were present. Also Attending were 15 community members from all parts of the island.

Public testimony were presented regarding the commission's vote to include: Military, dependents, felons and students. Two written testimony will be attached to this minutes. Verbal presentations were also heard most in opposition to the commission's action to include the above. Commission member, Dillon Nonaka, attended the meeting and fielded most of the questions regarding the commission's action to include: military, dependents, felons and students.

HIRAC councilmember, Barry Lamb, gave his report regarding the meeting of July 12, 2011 of the Maui and Hawaii Advisory Council and the meeting of the Reapportionment Commission. According to his report the Advisory council's meeting ended with no firm action taken.

Three Senate District maps were received. Arthur Roberts of District 1 presented a map showing District 1 (Hilo) with 61,563 people, District 2 (Puna, Kau, S kona) with 61,847 and District 3 (Kona, NS Kohala, Waimea, Hamakua) with 61,669. Neal O'Brian of District 1 presented 2 maps for Senate Districts. Both maps by O'Brian includes parts of Hilo and most of the Hamakua Coast with deviation of -0.61 for district 1; 0.60 for district 2; 0.02 for district 3. These maps will be forwarded to the commission as part of the minutes. Future maps submitted to the HIRAC will be forwarded to the commission. The council urges citizens to forward maps electronically to the commission and to submit narrative to explain the boundary changes.

Next HIRAC meeting is tentatively set for July 28, 2011 via video conference using Hawaii County's facilities subject to availability.

Respectfully submitted,

James Arakaki

Testimony to the Hawaii Island Reapportionment Advisory Committee

Aloha and thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony today. My name is John Buckstead and I am a permanent resident of Kailua-Kona. I am also the Vice Chair for West Hawaii of the Hawaii County Committee of the Democratic Party.

I am here to request that the Hawaii Island Reapportionment Advisory Committee and each of its individual members aggressively work to secure fair and equitable representation for the permanent residents of the State of Hawaii, particularly those you represent, the residents of Hawaii County.

I call your attention to the unanimous action taken last Sunday by the Hawaii County Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawaii, and that statement is submitted as an attachment to my testimony. The primary issue we addressed concerns the matter of "permanent residents" and how ignoring our State Constitution distorts our population count and reapportionment to the disadvantage of Hawaii Island residents. Allow me to make a couple of very brief comments.

- According to the material I have read and heard, the people of Hawaii amended the State Constitution in 1992 to say that reapportionment and redistricting must be based on an accounting of "permanent residents."
- My understanding is that the legislative history about this issue is unambiguous.
- To ignore this language would be to violate the constitution as adopted by the people.
- If you think the people were wrong, you should recommend changing the constitution.
   But you should not ignore what it clearly says.
- Despite the fact that the past two reapportionment commissions used the "permanent resident" definition, some who are currently opposed to it claim that it is too difficult to use. Following the law is now "too difficult." So we will ignore it? For the past 20 years it wasn't too difficult, but now it is? That's a question.

From a more parochial vantage point, it is my understanding that the distortion and unfairness resulting from this approach will deny Hawaii Island residents their right to a 4<sup>th</sup> State Senator, in which case the average State Senatorial District on the Big Island would consist of approximately 60,000 permanent residents while the State average would be closer to 45,000 residents. Clearly, the Big Island residents would be denied their constitutional guarantee of one person, one vote.

As the Hawaii Island Reapportionment Advisory Committee, I think your mandate is clear—yes, unambiguous.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to submit this testimony.

Respectfully,

John Buckstead, 326-9779

77-6356 Halawai Place, Kailua-Kona, HI 96740

CONTACT: Chairman: Steve Pavao (808-430-0267)

# HAWAI'I COUNTY COMMITTEE DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF HAWAI'I

# RESOLUTION TO SECURE FAIR, EQUITABLE REPRESENTATION FOR THE RESIDENTS OF HAWAI'I COUNTY

The Hawai'i County Committee (HCC) of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i (DPH) – at its Sunday, June 10, 2011 meeting – unanimously voted to request that the 2011 Reapportionment Commission support fair, equitable representation for all residents of the County of Hawai'i in the 2011 Reapportionment process.

As documented in the <u>2010 Census Public Law 94-171 Data for the State of Hawai'i</u>: "Population Growth Within The Neighbor Island Counties Was Faster Than The Population Growth In the City and County Of Honolulu as well as the entire State of Hawai'i." (See data.)

In keeping with the U.S. Constitutional one man/one vote fairness doctrine, this population growth warrants the addition of a 4<sup>th</sup> Senate seat for the County of Hawai'i.

However, the 2011 Reapportionment Commission has voted to include nonresident members of the military when computing population data prior to redrawing political districts. This negates the creation of a new senate seat for Hawai'i Island.

While members of the HCC honor and strongly support nonresident members of the U.S. military for their dedication to our safety, security and freedom, we believe that nonresident members of the military are just that – nonresidents of the State of Hawai'i. These individuals do not consider Hawai'i "home" – they live and vote elsewhere.

Further, in 1992, a Hawai'i Constitutional Amendment changed the population base to be used for reapportionment from "registered voters" to "permanent residents" and this position was validated by the Attorney General assigned to the 2001 Reapportionment Commission. There is at this time no justification for ignoring the Hawai'i State Constitution, and all of the 2011 neighbor island advisory councils concurred by reconfirming that nonresident members of the military, nonresident students and felons should <u>not</u> be included in the population base.

Therefore, the HCC asks the 2011 Reapportionment Commission to <u>reverse</u> its decision to include nonresident members of the military.

Further, if necessary, we urge the State Democratic Party to pursue all legal options including filing a lawsuit, if necessary, to overturn this Reapportionment Commission decision that denies Hawai'i County residents equal representation under the law.

This is <u>not</u> a political party issue. Rather, we believe this decision deprives Hawai'i Island voters of fair and equitable representation by denying the addition of a 4th Senate seat for our island and retaining it on Oahu.

A copy of this resolution is to be immediately submitted to the 2011 Reapportionment Commission, the Hawai'i County Reapportionment Advisory Council, the Chair of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, members of the DPH State Central Committee, and all Hawai'i County elected officials.

#### #####

#### Statistical Data from the 2010 Census Public Law 94-171 Data for the State of Hawai'i:

"Between 2000 and 2010, Hawai'i population grew by 12.3% and C&C of Honolulu population increased by 8.8%. Population on the neighbor island counties, however, rose at a faster pace than C&C Honolulu. As a result, their shares of the state's population has increased.

"This continued a trend that began in the 1980s. The fastest growing counties between 2000 and 2010 were Hawai'i and Maui counties, with a 24.5% and 20.8% increase respectively. The C&C of Honolulu now has 70.1% of the state's population, slightly down from 72.3% a decade ago. The combined share of the three neighbor island counties grew from 27.7% to 29.9% between 2000 and 2010. Hawai'i County's population share grew to 13.6% (up from 12.3%), Maui County's population share increased to 11.4% (up from 10.6%), and Kauai County's population share increased to 4.9% (up from 4.8%)." (Excerpted from the 2010 census highlights presented by DBEDT to the 2011 Reapportionment Commission.)

#####

## July 15, 2011

TO:

The State of Hawai'i 2011 Hawai'i Island Advisory Board

James Arakaki, Chair

Members: David Ross, Richard Ha, Barry Lamb

RE:

Request to Advise the Reapportionment Commission to Reconsider Their Decision to Include Nonresident Members of the Military in the

Hawai'i State Population Base Regarding Reapportionment and

Redistricting

### Aloha Mai Kakou,

I am Hulali Solomon-Covington, the Dean of Students Honoka'a High School, Democratic Party Prescient 5secretary, a member of Hawaii State Teachers Association union, and Kumu (teacher) for Beamer-Solomon Halau o Po'ohala, writing in support of both Hawai'i County Reapportionment Advisory Council and the Hawai'i County Committee of the Democratic Party of Hawai'i, request to repeal the reapportionment commission's earlier decision to include nonresident military in the population base regarding 2011 Reapportionment and Redistricting. Based on U.S. and Hawai'i State constitutional grounds guaranteeing "one man/one vote" equity in representation.

I am the sister of a fallen soldier who gave his life in Vietnam for the freedoms we enjoy and am therefore, deeply committed to protecting the rights and interests of our men and women in uniform.

However, to suggest that Hawai'i is dishonoring the contribution of our military forces by excluding these nonresidents in our population base is a very effective distraction from the real truth, which is that these Americans are indeed, "nonresidents." They consider their "homes" to be elsewhere in the USA – where they are emotionally rooted and where they have permanent residences and where they vote.

I believe this decision is not about our friends in the Military, but about retaining a Senate seat for O'ahu, which in turn denies the residents of the fastest growing districts of our State on Hawai'i Island the right to a 4<sup>th</sup> Senator.

I am very disturbed by layers of evidence that the commission is "Honolulu centric." Only one member of the commission was appointed who represents a neighbor island. Also, the neighbor island Advisory Councils have been denied support staff, thereby marginalizing their ability to adequately represent the citizens of their County.

Further, the people of Hawai'i weighed in on the issue of fair and equitable representation in the reapportionment process with passage of a Hawai'i Constitutional Amendment in 1992 that changed the population base to be used for reapportionment from "registered voters" to "permanent residents." How can the 2011 Reapportionment Commission simply ignore the Hawai'i State Constitution?

Please note as an educator in the Department of Education for over 25 years, I cannot express the urgency in securing this senate seat for the island of Hawai'i.

This representation in the legislature is extremely critical to our future in preserving and perpetuating community programs. These programs directly and indirectly impact our lives such as; education, health care, transportation, Hawaiian programs, social services, and many other services that our tax dollars support.

One more Senator for island of Hawai'i in the State Legislature would give us a greater voice in improving our quality of life. Please support this position.

'O au e onipa'a no ko'u Moku o Keawe,

Hulali Solomon Covington, M.Ed. Master Education

P.O. Box 1319

Kamuela, HI 96743

Msc

James Arakaki, Chair, 2011 Reapportionment Council 459 Waianuenue Avenue Hilo, Hawaii 96720

Post Office Box 284 Hakalau, Hawaii 96710 July 12, 2011

Dear Mr. Arakaki::

I would like to propose that the three districts on the Island of Hawaii be redrawn so that District 1 would begin at the Hilo side of the Hakalau Gulch, and run through Puna on the south side of Highway 130. I would propose this change for three reasons, two of which are due to employment trends, and the third due to educational realities.

First, I have been reassured that about 80 percent of those employed by the resorts along the Kohala coast reside north of the South Hilo border; I would contend that these residents' transportation, workplace and domestic interests would best be served by the District 2 representative, who would be proximally better located to respond to their concerns.

Second, I have also been reassured that most Puna residents commute to Hilo for employment; those who do this commute bear this out in stories of very long traffic jams at rush hour. This would be a good opportunity to combine the transportation- and work-related concerns of these residents with the other concerns they might have regarding living in Puna and working in Hilo; these concerns would at the moment have to be addressed to two different representatives.

Third, and closest to my own experience, is the situation of the Waiakea school district. Districts 1 and 2 are separated at Kawailani Street in Hilo. This means that families whose children attend Waiakeawaina Elementary School are represented in District 2, while those families with students of the same age who attend Waiakea Elementary School are represented in District 1. When all these students reach high school age, they attend Waiakea Intermediate and High Schools, in District 1. Families who live in Panaewa, either on Hawaiian Homelands or on the agricultural lots, also attend Waiakea schools, but are currently represented in District 2. One of the criteria that you have laid out in your reapportionment guidelines indicates that school districts should not be broken up into different voting districts, which is currently the case with those whose children attend Waiakea schools.

If the map were redrawn in this fashion, District 1 would lose voters north of Hilo, but would gain them south of Hilo. The numbers would remain about the same for the district; but overall the concerns of those living from Puna to Hakalau could better be addressed by a representative whose constituents would share many of the same concerns – at the workplace, on the road, and at home.

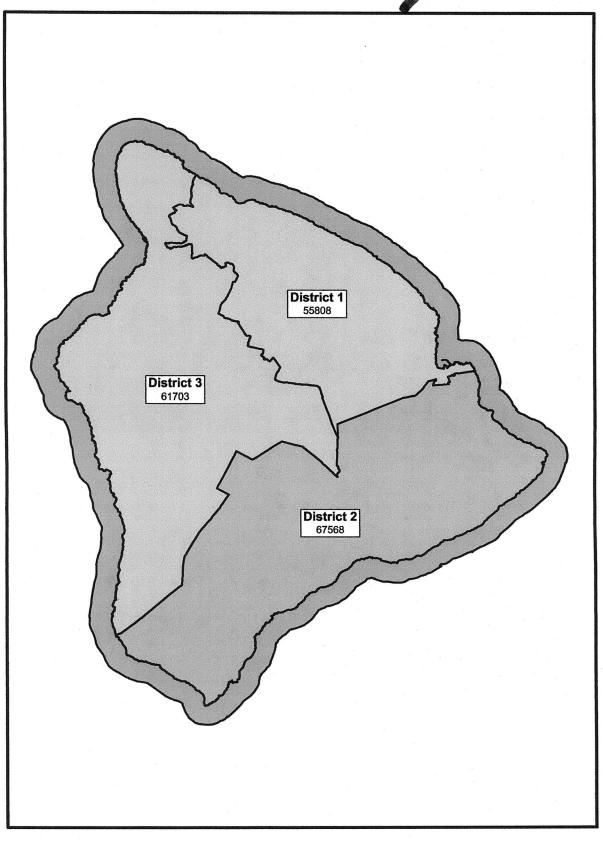
I urge you to consider redrawing the lines for District 1 starting in the north from the Hamakua Gulch to the southern side of Route 130 in Puna. Thank you for your time and consideration.

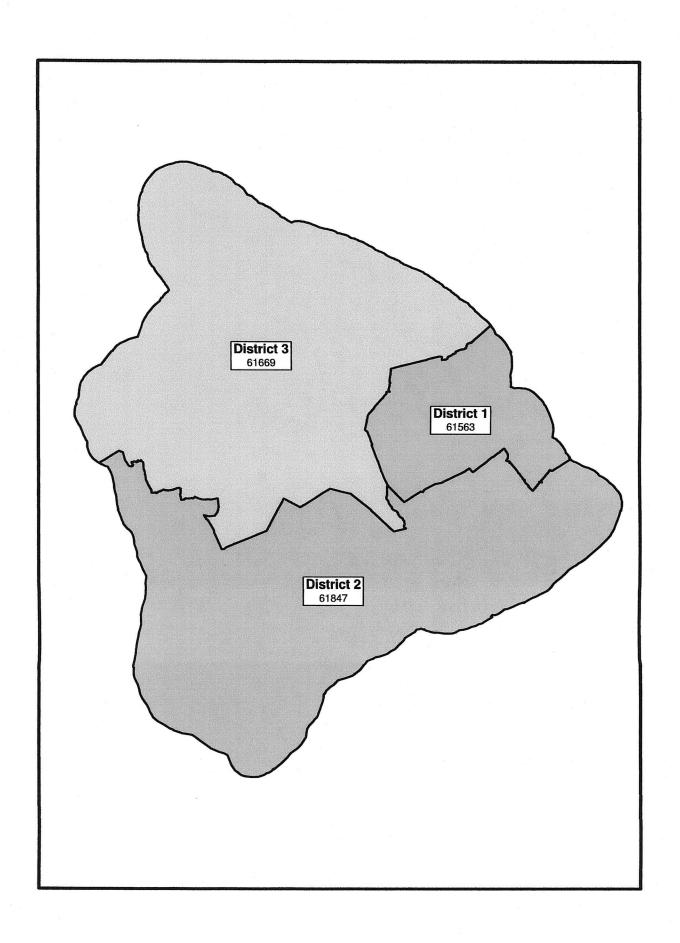
Sincerely,

Arthur Roberts, District 1, Hakalau

arthur Robert

Existing







July 15, 2011

Hawaii Island Reapportionment Advisory Council
Mr. James Arakaki, Chair

Dear Mr. Arakaki and members of the Council

I am presenting to you two redrawn maps of the Island of Hawaii for the two Senatorial Districts 1, 2 reflecting the new population census of 2010

Both maps of District 3 are the new population data of 61,703. I have not changed those numbers. The changes appear in the boundaries of District 1 to bring the district population to the approximate new figures of 61,000.

Attached to the maps is a very brief description of the changes.

I thank you for this opportunity to offer proposals as you deliberate through the process, reapportioning our island's districts.

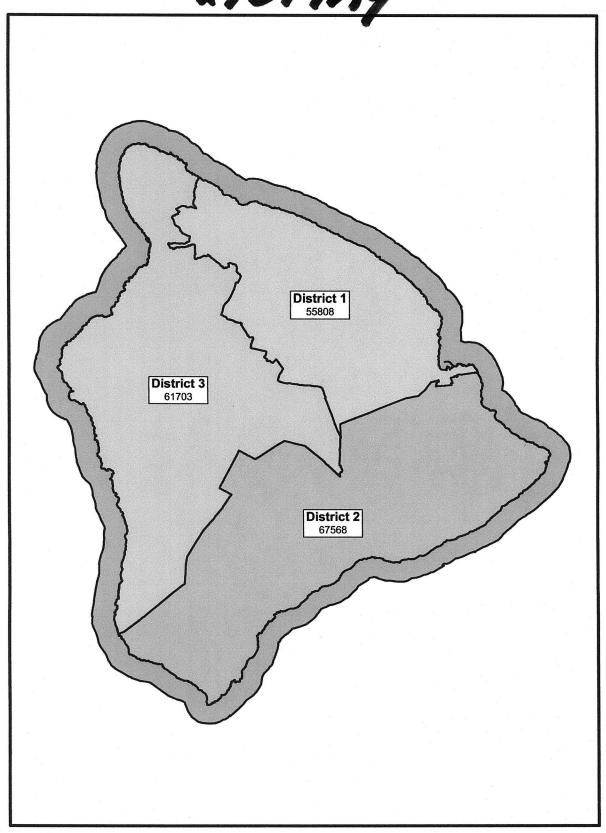
I also thank all of you for contributing your time in this arduous task.

Sincerely,

Niel O'Brien

District 1

Existing



July 14, 2011

Mr. James Arakaki, Chair

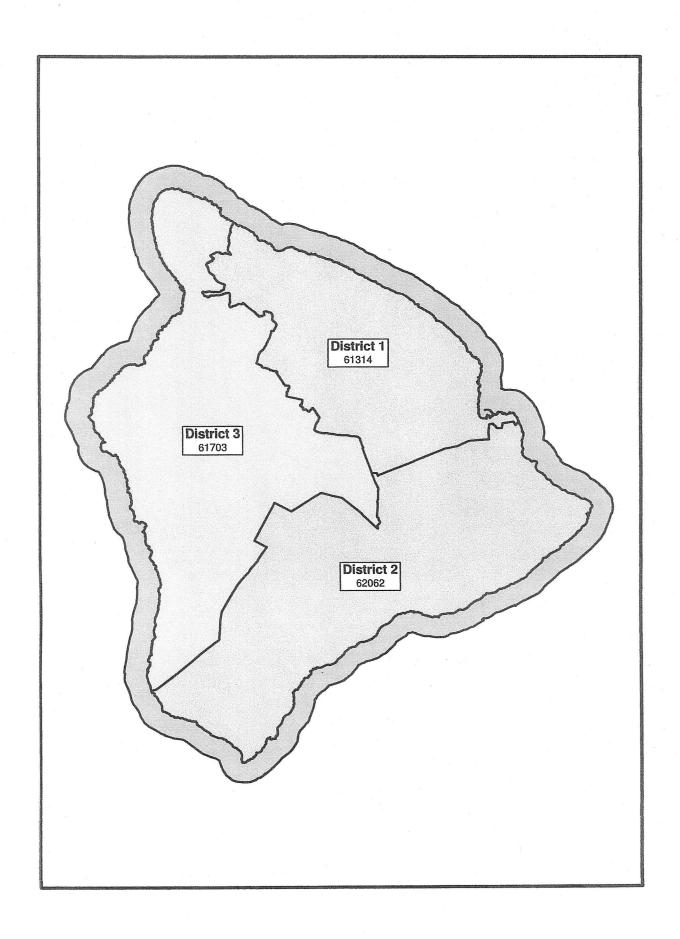
Hawaii Island Reapportionment Advisory Council

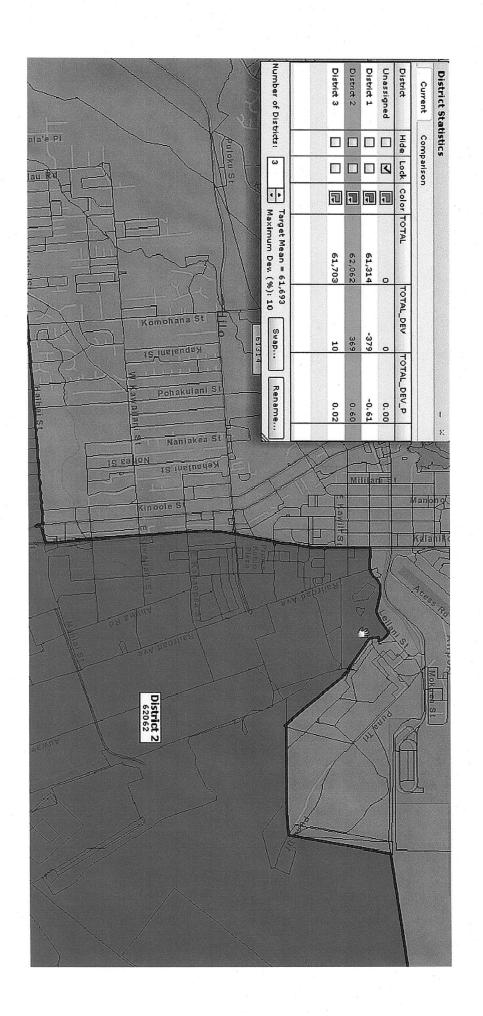
Description - Senate District 1 MAP #61314 & District 2 #62062 shaded blue.

Boundaries from the current District 1 which ends at Kawailani, now moves to Ainaola Dr. on the North side down to Haihai St, left on Hwy 11 to Leilani St before the airport intersection.

Niel O'Brien

District 1





July 15, 2011

Mr. James Arakaki, Chair

Hawaii Island Reapportionment Advisory Council

Description - Senate District 1Map 61466 & District 2 61910.

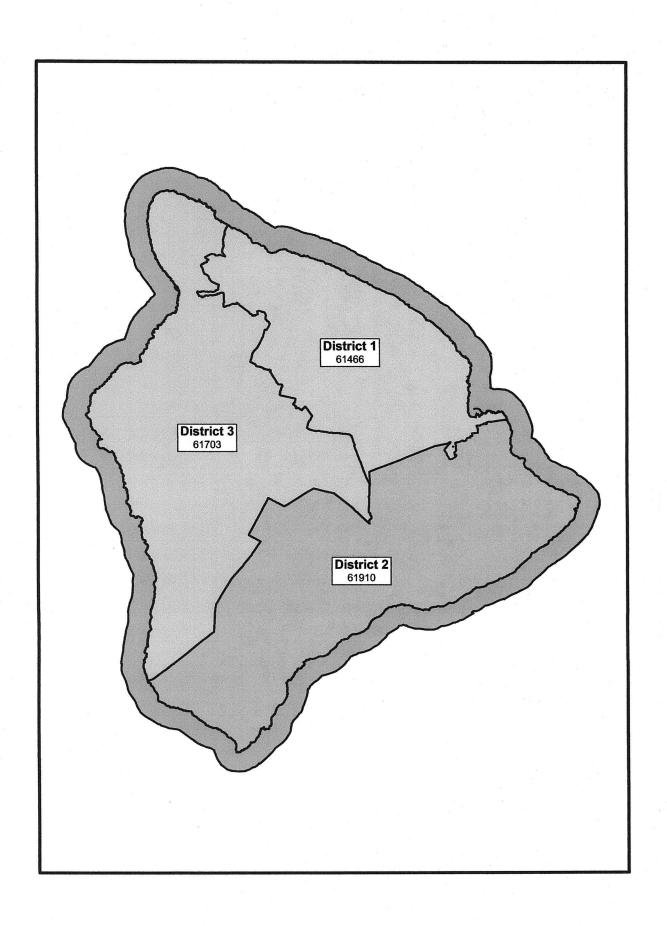
Boundaries from existing District 1at Kawailani St. in Hilo has been moved to Ainaola St. up to Hoaka Road, North, down to Haihai St. left on Iwalani St, North.

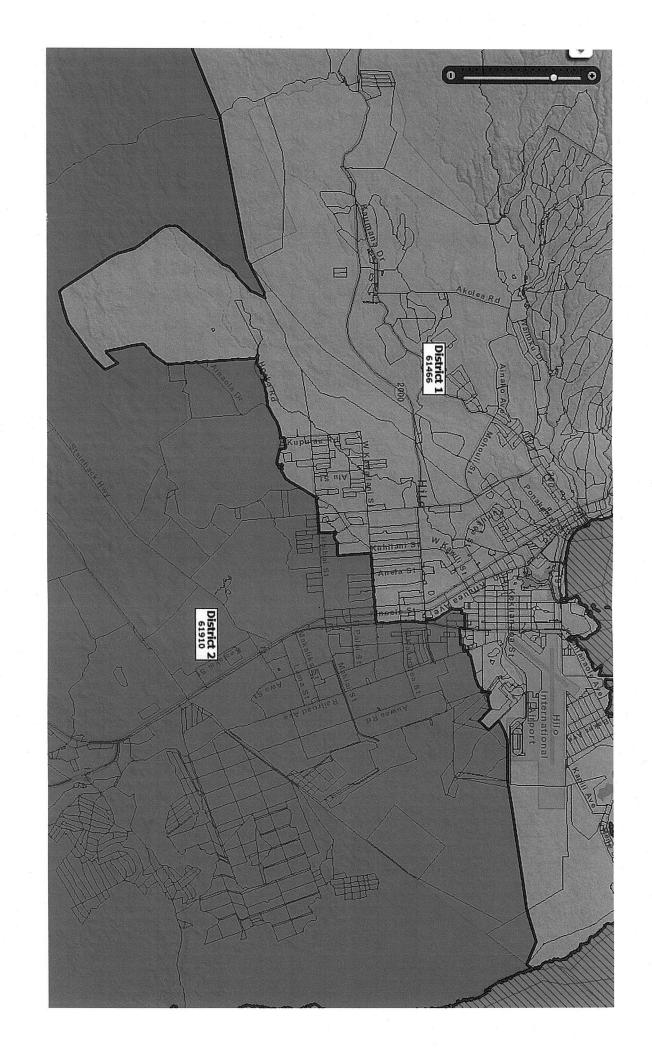
Right on Kawailani St. to Hwy 11-Kanoelehua Ave and right to South of airport intersection.

District 2 boundaries are in blue #6190.

Niel O'Brien

District 1





# STATE OF HAWAII 2011 REAPPORTIONMENT COMMISSION

The Technical Committee presented their recommended maps and plans to the Commission on August 3, 2011. Both presentations can be viewed on the Reapportionment website:

Maps and descriptions of the plans recommended by the Technical Committee on August 3, 2011 (PDF) -

http://hawaii.gov/elections/reapportionment/2011/documents/Presentation%20of%20 the %20 Technical%20 Committee%20-%202011-08-3.pdf

Presentation of the Technical Committee on August 3, 2011 -

http://hawaii.gov/elections/reapportionment/2011/documents/Presentation%20of%20the %20Technical%20Committee%20-%202011-08-3.pdf

## STATE OF HAWAII 2011 REAPPORTIONMENT COMMISSION

## SCHEDULE OF PUBLIC HEARINGS

| August 30, 2011    | 6:00PM  | Kapolei High School Cafeteria<br>91-5007 Kapolei Parkway               |
|--------------------|---------|--|
| August 31, 2011    | 5:30 PM | Maui Waena Intermediate Cafeteria<br>795 Onehee Ave., Kahului          |
| September 1, 2011  | 5:30 PM | Lahaina Civic Center<br>1840 Honoapiilani Hwy.                         |
| September 2, 2011  | 5:30 PM | Kauai Council Chamber<br>4386 Rice St., Lihue                          |
| September 6, 2011  | 6:00 PM | Aikahi Elementary School Cafeteria<br>281 Ilihau St., Kailua           |
| September 7, 2011  | 6:00 PM | State Capitol Auditorium<br>415 S. Beretania St., Honolulu             |
| September 8, 2011  | 6:00 PM | Mililani High School Cafeteria<br>95-1200 Meheula Parkway              |
| September 9, 2011  | 5:00 PM | Lanai High School Cafeteria<br>555 Fraiser Avenue, Lanai City          |
| September 12, 2011 | 5:00 PM | Molokai - Kaunakakai School Cafeteria<br>Kamehameha V Hwy.             |
| September 13, 2011 | 5:00 PM | Hawaii County Council Chamber<br>25 Aupuni St., Hilo - Video from Kona |
| September 14, 2011 | 5:00 PM | Hawaii County Council Chamber<br>Kona Civic Center- Video from Hilo    |
| September 15, 2011 | 6:00 PM | Waipahu High School Cafeteria<br>94-1211 Farrington Hwy.               |
| September 16, 2011 | 6:00 PM | Kalani High School Cafeteria<br>4680 Kalanianaole Hwy.                 |